NARA.055P PATENT

CHRYSANTHEMUM PLANT NAMED 'GEDI TWO AMA'

LATIN NAME OF THE GENUS AND SPECIES

Chrysanthemum morifolium

VARIETY DENOMINATION

'GEDI TWO AMA'

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of garden-type Chrysanthemum plant, herein after referred to by the cultivar name 'GEDI TWO AMA.' The new cultivar is a product of induced mutation and selection of an unpatented cultivar called 'AMANDOLA.' Mutation of 'AMANDOLA' was induced by irradiation of unrooted cuttings. The selection from the irradiated cuttings was made by Dirk Pieters in September 2001.

Asexual reproduction of the new cultivar by vegetative cuttings and tissue culture was performed in Staden, Belgium and in Oxnard, California, and has shown that the unique features of this cultivar are stable and reproduced true to type on successive generations.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The cultivar 'GEDI TWO AMA' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, daylength, and light intensity, without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be the unique characteristics of 'GEDI TWO AMA.' These characteristics in combination distinguish 'GEDI TWO AMA' as a new and distinct *Chrysanthemum* cultivar:

- 1. Garden type Chrysanthemum
- 2. Pink/purple ray florets
- 3. Spider type flower form

Plants of the new variety are similar to plants of the source cultivar from which the new variety was derived, 'AMANDOLA,' in most horticultural characteristics. However, plants of the new cultivar are taller and have a larger diameter inflorescense than plants of the 'AMANDOLA' cultivar. Additionally, the new variety produces more lateral branches, and also produces more flowers per lateral branch than the 'AMANDOLA' cultivar. 'AMANDOLA' was made by hybridization of a female parent *Chrysanthemum* plant variety 'GEDI TWO TAR' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 13,689) and a male parent *Chrysanthemum* plant variety 'GEDI ONE JAM' (U.S. Plant Patent Application Serial Number: 09/863,748), which was performed in September, 1997 by Dirk Pieters. Multiple generations of the resulting 'AMANDOLA' cultivar were reproduced and flowered. In January 1999 unrooted cuttings of the cultivar 'AMANDOLA' were irradiated, selected, and propagated, producing the final cultivar described in this application.

Plants of the new cultivar are similar to plants of the female grandparent variety, 'GEDI TWO TAR' in most horticultural characteristics, however plants of the new cultivar have pink/purple ray florets, in contrast to the yellow ray florets of the female parent variety, 'GEDI TWO TAR.' Additionally, plants of the new cultivar are taller and have a larger diameter

inflorescence than plants of the female parent variety, 'GEDI TWO TAR.' Further, the new variety blooms approximately two weeks earlier than 'GEDI TWO TAR.'

Plants of the new cultivar are similar to plants of the male grandparent variety, 'GEDI ONE JAM' in most horticultural characteristics. However, plants of the new cultivar have a spider-type bloom while the male parent variety, 'GEDI ONE JAM' has a decorative-type bloom. The new variety has a smaller diameter inflorescence than does 'GEDI ONE JAM.' Additionally, the new variety is taller and naturally blooms two weeks earlier than the male parent variety, 'GEDI ONE JAM.'

In comparison to the commercially available variety 'Yomaggie' (U.S. Plant Patent No. 11,855), 'GEDI TWO AMA' has more ray florets which have a lighter purple color than the ray florets of 'Yomaggie.' Additionally, the inflorescence of the new variety is a spider-type compared to a quilled-daisy type of 'Yomaggie.' Further, the new variety has a more rounded plant form and blooms approximately two to three weeks earlier than plants of the commercially available variety 'Yomaggie.'

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPH

The photograph shows a plant of 'GEDI TWO AMA.' One cutting was planted in the two-gallon container in May, and grown outdoors in Oxnard, CA.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

In the following description, color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart except where general terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used. The following observations and measurements describe 95 day old plants grown in Oxnard,

California, during the month of September. Light conditions were bright, and no artificial shading was used. The humidity was low and no rainfall occurred. The growing temperature ranged from approximately 15°C to 21°C at night, and from approximately 19°C to 32°C during the day. Measurements and numerical values represent averages of typical flowering types.

Botanical classification: Chrysanthemum morifolium cultivar 'GEDI TWO AMA'

Commercial classification: Garden-type Chrysanthemum

PROPAGATION

Time to Rooting: Approximately 7 to 14 days at approximately 21°C

Root Description: Fine, fibrous

PLANT

Growth Habit: Mounding herbaceous perennial

Height: Approximately 34 cm

Plant Spread: Approximately 56 cm

Growth Rate: Moderate

Branching Characteristics: Free branching

Length of Lateral Branches: Approximately 31 cm

Number of Leaves per Lateral Branch: Approximately 125

Age of Plant Described: Approximately 95 days

FOLIAGE

Leaf:

Arrangement: Alternate

Average length: Approximately 3 cm

Average width: Approximately 2 cm

Shape of blade: Ovate

Apex: Cuspidate

Base: Attenuate

Attachment: Stalked

Margin: Palmately lobed

Texture of top surface: Lightly pubescent

Texture of bottom surface: Lightly pubescent

Color:

young foliage upper side: Near Green 139A

young foliage under side: Near Yellow-green 147B

mature foliage upper side: Near Green 137A

mature foliage under side: Near Yellow-green 147B

venation upper side: Near Yellow-green 147C

venation under side: Near Yellow-green 147B

Venation type: Net

Petiole:

Average length: Approximately 8 mm

Color: Near Green 137A

Diameter: Approximately 2 mm

Internode length: Approximately 1.6 cm

BLOOM

Inflorescence:

Flowering habit: induced by darkness period greater than approximately 13.5 hours, approximately 42 days of appropriate day length required to induce and develop blooms

Inflorescence form: Spider

Flower fragrance: Not present

Natural flowering season: Natural season flowering begins between September 1 and September 8 in Southern California.

Number of inflorescences per lateral branch: Approximately 45

Inflorescence diameter: Approximately 5.6 cm

Inflorescence depth: Approximately 1.7 cm

Inflorescence longevity on plant: Approximately 23 days

Persistence: Persistent

Ray Florets:

Appearance: Matte

Texture: Smooth

Average number per flower: Approximately 335

Shape: Oblong

Aspect: Cylindric

Margin: Entire

Apex: Rounded

Length: Approximately 2.8 cm

Width: Approximately 2 mm

Color:

upper surface at first opening: Near Purple 75B

upper surface at maturity: Near Purple 75C

upper surface at fading: Near Purple 75D

under surface at first opening: Near Purple 75B

under surface at maturity: Near Purple 75C

under surface at fading: Near Purple 75D

Disc florets:

Apperance: Matte

Texture: Smooth

Average number per flower: Approximately 19

Shape: Cylindric

Apex: Obtuse

Average length: Approximately 3 mm

Average width: Approximately 1 mm

Color:

At first opening: Near Yellow-orange 14B

At maturity: Near Yellow-orange 15A

At fading: Near Yellow-orange 14A

Peduncle:

Length:

at terminal end (shortest): Approximately 3.9 cm

at lateral end (longest): Approximately 7.5 cm

Angle to stem: Acute

Strength: Moderate

Color: Near Yellow-green 147B

Habit: Upright

Diameter: Approximately 2.5 mm

Texture: Lightly pubescent

Inflorescence bud:

Length: Approximately 5 mm

Diameter: Approximately 8 mm

Form: Globular

Color: Near Purple 76D

Phyllaries (Involucral bracts):

Appearance: Matte

Texture: Lightly Pubescent

Number: Approximately 30

Shape: Oblanceolate

Margin: Entire

Apex: Acute

Length: Approximately 7 mm

Width: Approximately 2 mm

Color:

upper side: Near Green 138A

under side: Near Green 138A

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS

Ray Florets:

Number of pistils per flower: 1

Stigma shape: 2 branched

Stigma color: Near Yellow 2B

Style color: Near Yellow-green 154D

Style length: Approximately 4 mm

Stamens: Absent

Disc Florets:

Number of pistils per flower: 1

Stigma shape: 2 branched

Stigma color: Near Yellow 2B

Style length: Approximately 2.5 mm

Style color: Near Yellow-green 154D

Number of stamens per flower: Approximately 5

Anther shape: Tubular

Anther color: Near Yellow 13A

Pollen color: No pollen detected

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Seed Production:

Commercially, this plant is not used or observed in a stage wherein seeds would be produced. Therefore, seed production has not been observed.

Disease Resistance: Neither resistance nor susceptibility has been observed.

Drought Tolerance and Cold Tolerance: Neither resistance nor susceptibility has been

observed.